

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-02 CU-04 EB-07 SP-02 NSC-05

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R 261205Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6067

INFO USDEL ALEXANDRIA

UNCLAS CAIRO 8429

FROM PECK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (BAKER, DEAN)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MR. AND MRS. DEAN BAKER

REF: A. STATE 187089; STATE 193312

1. MR. AND MRS. DEAN BAKER HAD BRIEF BUT EVIDENTLY SUCCESSFUL, INFORMATIVE AND ENJOYABLE VISIT TO EGYPT.

2. IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS AND ATTEMPTING ARRANGE ITINERARY, EMBASSY DISCOVERED THAT MIN HIGHER ED WAS ALSO PLANNING FOR VISIT. WE WERE ABLE COORDINATE EFFORTS, TO PRODUCE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE.

3. BAKERS WERE MET AT AIRPORT EARLY (0020) ON 24TH BY EMBASSY EXPEDITOR AND ESCORT OFFICER FROM MINISTRY AND TAKEN TO HILTON HOTEL FOR REST AND SETTLING IN. LETTER FROM EMBASSY WAS DELIVERED TO BAKER ON ARRIVAL, EXTENDING WELCOME ON BEHALF AMBASSADOR, OFFERING EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE, AND DESCRIBING PLANNED ACTIVITIES. LETTER INCLUDED INVITATION TO EVENING PERFORMANCE OF JOSE LIMON DANCERS ON AUGUST 25 FOR BAKERS AND ESCORT.

4. ON MORNING OF 25TH, BAKERS MET WITH ABDEL FATTAH ISMAIL, UNDER SEC. MIN HIGHER EDUCATION, IBRAHIM BADRAN, PRES.

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CAIRO UNIVERSITY, ABDEL OZIZ SOLIMAN, DEPUTY PRESIDENT AIN

SHAMS UNIVERSITY AND VARIOUS OTHERS IN FIELD OF EDUCATION, FOR DISCUSSION OF SITUATION IN EGYPT AND POSSIBLE FIELDS OF CO-OPERATION WITH U. OF MICHIGAN. BAKER REPORTED A HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST ON PART OF EGYPTIANS IN ESTABLISHING JOINT PROGRAMS OF VARIOUS KINDS, WHICH HE INTENDS TO PURSUE ON HIS RETURN TO U.S.

5. FOLLOWING THIS, BAKER MET WITH UNDER SEC GHANDOUR, MIN ECON AND ECON COOP AND THEN WITH ISMAIL OSMAN, MIN HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION (IN ABSENCE OF MINISTER OSMAN), TO DISCUSS OPEN DOOR POLICY, RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM, AND EGYPTIAN DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN GENERAL. BAKERS SAID THEY FOUND THESE MEETINGS HIGHLY INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING.

6. EMBASSY BRIEFING WAS PROVIDED BY AID REP TEMPLETON, NAVATT BLOCK AND ECON COUNSELOR PECK. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON CURRENT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION, BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL, ROLE OF US IN AREA, AND LIKELY PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT. BAKERS WERE VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH EGYPT AND EGYPTIANS, PARTICULARLY WARMTH OF RECEPTION THEY HAD RECEIVED, AND QUITE INTERESTED IN PRES. SADAT'S EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS HIS COUNTRY FACES. BRIEFING DEALT MOSTLY WITH GENERAL RATHER THAN SPECIFIC SUBJECTS, BUT INFORMATION WAS CLEARLY APPRECIATED.

7. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION AT LIMON PERFORMANCE, BAKERS TOLD US THEY WERE EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH WAY VISIT HAD WORKED OUT, BOTH PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY. EMBASSY EXPEDITOR TOOK THEM TO AIRPORT ON MORNING OF 26TH.

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